

RECEIVED
U.S. E.P.A.

2006 APR 17 PM 2:17

RECEIVED

06 APR 12 PM 2:51

ENVIR. APPEALS BOARD
BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD HEARINGS CLERK
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY -- REGION 10
WASHINGTON, D.C.

In the Matter of:

)
) Appeal No. NPDES 06-05
)

)
) HECLA MINING COMPANY
) LUCKY FRIDAY MINE
) NPDES Permit No. ID-000017-5
)

) **REGION'S RESPONSE TO MOTION**
) **FOR LEAVE TO FILE REPLY**
) **BRIEF**
)

On April 7, 2006, undersigned counsel for Region 10 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received by facsimile Hecla Mining Company's Motion for Leave to File Reply Brief and proposed Reply Brief. Having now reviewed the Motion and the proposed Reply Brief, the Region reports that it neither opposes nor joins the Motion because it believes that the proffered Reply Brief merely restates arguments made in Hecla's pending petition. The Region believes that the issues still pending before the Board have been fully briefed, and, should the Board grant Hecla's Motion, the Region does not anticipate seeking leave to file a Surreply.

Dated this 12TH day of April, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



R. DAVID ALLNUTT
Assistant Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101
Tel: (206) 553-2581
Fax: (206) 553-0163
Email: allnutt.david@epa.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing "Response to Motion for Leave to File Reply" was sent to the following persons, in the manner specified, on the date below:

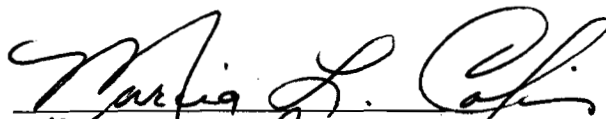
One copy by facsimile, and original and five copies via U.S. mail to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Clerk of the Board, Environmental Appeals Board (MC 1103B)
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460-0001
fax: (202) 233-0121

One copy by facsimile, and one copy via U.S. mail to:

Kevin J. Beaton
Teresa A. Hill
STOEL RIVES LLP
101 S. Capitol Blvd. Suite 1900
Boise, Idaho 83702-5958
fax: (208) 389-9040

Dated: 4/12/06


MARCIA L. CORVIN
U.S. EPA